(a) whether the work pertaining to fencing of the borders of the country has not been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total length of fencing in kilometers erected at border till May, 2005; and

(d) by when fencing is likely to be completed in the remaining parts of the borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The fencing work of the borders has not yet been completed due to following reasons:

(a) Resistance by Bangladesh Rifles to the construction of fencing within 150 yards from international border.

(b) Delay in land acquisition.

(c) Limited working season due to heavy rain.

(d) Difficult terrain.

(e) Water logging for the better part of the year.

(f) Delay in forest clearance.

(c) and (d) 1948.95 Kms. of fencing along Indo-Bangladesh border and 1752.42 Kms. of fencing along Indo-Pak border has been completed till May, 2005. The work in remaining parts excluding certain stretches in Mizoram Sector is likely to be completed by December, 2006.

Security for Amarnath yatra

1824. SHRI E.M SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new intiative has been taken by Government to ensure the security of thousands of Pilgrims to Amarnath yatra in veiw of the increased terrorist threat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the report of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, in view of the increased terrorist therat, various steps have been taken for the secruity of Amarnath pilgrims, which include the following-

(i) Security Forces deployed have been alerted and Road Opening Parties (ROPs) already deployed have been further strengthened;

(ii) Intensive patrolling of routes leading to holy cave is being carried out with surprise checking of vehicles;

(iii) Special nakas have been established *en-route* and thorough checking/frisking is being carried out;

(iv) Doorframe metal detectors and X-ray machines/gadgets have been installed at holy cave, Sheshnag, Chandanwari, Ashmuquam and Base Camp.

In addition to the above mentioned steps, additional Central Paramilitary Forces and dog squads have been provided to the State Government for the security of Amarnath Yatra 2005. Central Government is also constantly monitoring and periodically reviewing the security arrangements made for the Yatra.

Non-completion of projects by NDMC

1825. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NDMC has failed in completing the important projects or even implementing important Budget proposals for the year 2004-05 in North Avenue, South Avenue, Parliament Street, Connaught Place and other VVIP areas;

(b) if so, the names of the projects contained in the Budget proposals of 2004-05 which have not been implemented so far and the reasons therefor; and

(c) by what time the pending projects like the multi level parking lots, Modern Flower Market, New Delhi City Centre Phase-II are likely to be completed and the reasons for the delay in completion in each case?